

STATE HIGHWAY PATROL
EXHIBIT NO. 3
DATE: 3/10/09
BILL NO. HB 304

I just wanted to tell you a little about my husband, Trooper David A. Graham. Who we will always love and miss dearly. For as long as I have known him, he has been the kindest and most helpful person I have known. So when we first met it was only fitting that he was working in an arcade, (helping the kids in his area of Kansas City develop their hand-eye coordination, of course). Not that playing and fixing video games all day is bad.

He then moves on to Parts America, here again helping people. This time helping to fix cars, and of course where he could learn more about making his 1984 Mustang into a "Hot Rod".

He then went into optics to help people of all ages to see better. He was great at helping kids feel better about having to wear glasses.

He then went to Home Depot. He was really excited here he could help people build things that were important to them. Still not happy with the amount of people he could help, he checked into law enforcement, sounded good.

He realized he had a lot of work to do, studying for the tests, and getting fit. He did it! He is now a Montana Highway Patrol Trooper. The kids were more excited than anyone--I mean who wouldn't want to tell all their friends "My dad can give your dad a ticket" (just kidding). Every time he put on his uniform it was with intense pride. It wasn't only his hard work to get there, the people he gets to help, but what our State Troopers stand for: SERVICE, INTEGRITY, AND RESPECT.

David had a special area he loved to patrol in Kalispell, on Hwy 2. It had a wide area to turn on someone, as to not cause an accident. It was a great stretch of road for him to get out there and meet our citizens and tourists. Especially the ones late for work, late to the airport, out of gas, or just having car trouble. He had told me several times that from Hwy 2 and Reserve all the way to the Blue Moon Bar was his favorite stretch of road to patrol. I always knew which way to go to work in Whitefish from Somers when he was working. He would be out there helping people to understand the safety troubles they were having, seatbelts, speeding, careless driving. Tragically on 10-9-07 his life here ended, by a careless driver, while on

patrol of his favorite stretch of Hwy 2. He was out there doing what he loved, helping others.

I can think of no better way to honor his memory than to make this part of hwy 2 a memorial hwy. It would not only honor him, but help others to remember--THAT THERE IS NOTHING MORE VALUABLE THAN OUR LIVES!!! For those who drive this stretch of road and don't know David or what happened here let us and the signs tell them that he cared. Just as our law enforcement officers do while out there "patrolling". They are not there to "meet their quota" but because they care for our safety, just as David did.

Thank you for listening to our request.

Sincerely,

Genny Graham

Cedric Graham

Chynna Graham

Caiden Graham